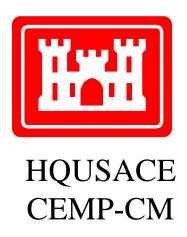
Resident-Area Engineers & Contracting CONFERENCE



Costs of Doing Business

Jim Lovo
Military Programs
Construction Management
HQUSACE

Costs of Doing Business Outline



- •Why are they important?
- •What are our costs?
- How do we communicate them?
- •What drives them?
- How can we contain and reduce them?

Why are Costs Important ????? or How Important are Costs ?????

USACE: We're Primarily <u>Business-type</u> Operation

Business = Customers, Products & Cash

- Customers = Choices
- Choices = #1: You/Us

#2: Not You/Not Us

- Customer Satisfaction = Quality, Cost, Timeliness, & Relationships
- Priority of Cost in Customer Satisfaction ???
- Lovos Law: No Satisfaction = No Customers = No Cash =

NO BUSINESS!

What are our costs? Funding the Corps

We're Primarily Project Funded

- Direct Costs
 - √ Labor (mostly)
 - √ Contracts (mostly)
 - ✓ Travel
 - ✓ Reproduction
- Indirect Costs
 - ✓ Leave
 - √ Employee Entitlements
 - ✓ Overhead



What are our costs? Employee Leave & Entitlements

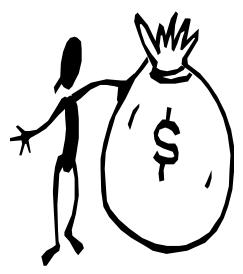
- Burden or Effective Labor Rate
- Rate for cost of employee <u>leave</u> & <u>entitlements</u> (e.g., retirement, health, life insurance)
- Current typical <u>burden rate</u> is 45%



What are our costs?

General/Administrative Overhead (G&A)

- Costs associated with:
 - Executive Office
 - Legal
 - Resource Management Office
 - Logistics
 - Information Management (part)
 - Human Resources Office
 - Safety
 - Public Affairs
 - Portions of Contracting (e.g. small purchases)
- Expenses include: Labor, rent, utilities, training, supplies & materials, vehicles, ADP system charges etc.
- Costs are distributed as percent of direct labor charges to individual projects.
- FY 97 USACE Targets: 26-36%



What are our costs? Technical Indirect or Departmental Overhead (DOH)

- Costs of technical organizations not attributed to specific project, includes:
 - Admin/management labor, etc.
 - GSA rent (civil projects only)
 - Communication services
 - ADP, training, etc.
 - Tech labor not charged under 1 hour rule
- Technical Offices include: PPMD; Engineering; Construction; Planning; Operations and Real Estate.
- Costs distributed as percent of direct labor charges to individual projects.

What are our costs? Effective Hourly Rate (Military Projects)

Hourly Rate (Typical)

GS12/02: \$22.01

Burden 48%

DOH Rate 43%

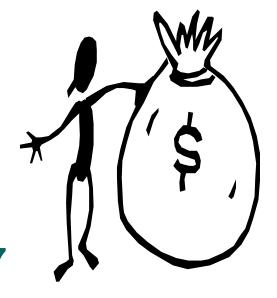
G&A Rate 27%

 $[$22.01 \times 1.48] = 32.57

= [\$32.57 x 43%] + [\$32.57 x 27%]

= \$32.57 + \$14.01 + \$8.79

Military Hourly Rate for GS-12/02 = \$55.37



(Check with RM for Your Effective Rate)

What are our costs?

Total Labor Multiplier (Military Example)

Typical District

Base Salary Labor Unit	1.00
Effective Rate	.48
Departmental OH (1.48 x .43)	.64
G&A OH (1.48 x .27)	<u>.40</u>
Total Labor Multiplier	2.52

\$ \$

HQ Goal for District Composite: 2.54

(Check with RM for Your TLM)

What are our costs? Supervision and Administration (S & A)

- Costs associated with day-to-day management of Construction.
- Construction S&A costs include: Supervision and Inspection of work in progress; Contract Administration; Review of submittals; Quality Assurance; Review/approval of schedules; Contractor payment estimates; Administrative support.
- Typically 94% consumed in field offices and construction divisions @ Districts
- 6% Consumed in PPMD, Engineering, and AE activities.

What are our costs? Supervision and Administration (S & A)

- Construction <u>Flat Rate</u> for Military Work
- Actual Cost for Civil Works
- Flat Rate costs accumulated in Revolving Fund Account.
- Distributed to projects as contractor earnings are paid.
- Construction S&A Flat Rates for FY 97:



- Const S&A Flat Rate = Charges to Customer
- Actual USACE S&A Cost = Const. Flat Rate

How we communicate costs:



S&A Brochure

Construction Division

What is Construction S&A?......

How is Construction S&A charged.....

Is it a good value?.....

.....and other things we want you to know!



US Army Corps of Engineers

Your Construction Quality Partner

How we communicate costs!: S&A Brochure

- This brochure is written for you...
- ...how these services are charged, and what those charges are.
- ...team members <u>at every level</u> have a good understanding of our construction supervision and administration services and fees ...



• ...so that we can work together more effectively.

What are our costs? Engineering During Construction (EDC) Issues

- Who's in charge?
 - Const, PM, Engr???
- How is EDC controlled?
 - District actual EDC ranges
 from 0.5% to 2%



 Same activities charged to different accounts among districts (especially between EDC and S&A accounts)

What are our costs? Engineering During Construction (EDC)

ER 37-345-10: This cost account /work category includes but is not limited to normal engineering support activities performed by the engineering division or an architect engineer firm as follows: Designer site visits, review of shop drawings and submittal...etc,etc, etc, etc...????

0.5% or 2%??? & who charges what???

What drives our costs?



Productivity

- Doing the right thing
- Doing the right thing, right
- Doing the right thing, right, at the right time

Direct & Overhead Activities

- Direct: labor & contracts
- Overheads: burden is mostly fixed; G&A and DOH can (and must!) be managed

How can we contain & reduce costs?

- Focus on quality management and providing value.
- Focus on:
 - **SECTION 2018 USACE Management Costs**
 - Direct Project Costs
 - Direct Costs
 - Overhead Costs
 - Appearance of Waste
 - **Explaining Costs**
- Achievements:
 - FY96 MILCON S&A 5% (6.0% to 5.7%)
 - FY97 O&M S&A (O'Conus) 6% (8.5% to 8.0%)
 - FY97 O&M S&A (Conus) 13% (7.0% to 6.5%)
- Customers care about cost!



Summary

- Costs are <u>critical!</u>
- Know and understand them.
- Communicate them accurately to customers.
- Control & reduce them while improving quality.